Romans 67 – 16:18-20
Good Words and Fair Speeches

1. 16:17-18
   a. Marking/avoiding is hard because it requires the courage of expressed conviction
   b. Bad reasons to separate: personalities, politics, disagreements, murmurings
   c. The division maker is wrong, but the division marker gets hated – Gal 4:16
   d. Paul wishes some were cut off for the wrong doctrine they taught – Gal 5:7-12
   e. Serving the Lord may mean contention, offence, and dispute – Acts 9:29, 15:1-2
      i. Paul contends and disputes for the gospel – Acts 17:17, 19:8-9, 1 Thess 2:2
   f. “serve not the Lord” – they would have you avoid hardship – Gal 6:12-15
      i. Not glorying in the cross is a shame - Phil 3:17-19
      ii. Religious people who love pleasure more than God - 2 Tim 3:4-5

2. “Good Words and Fair Speeches” – Col 2:3-8 2
   a. The way to subvert is with fair speeches, eloquence, niceties, and deceit.
   b. Fair speeches deceive simple hearts. Sometimes we need to ‘shoo’ the flies.
   c. Wrong doctrine subverts the hearers, it must be stopped – Titus 1:10-11, 3:8-11
   d. You should not be able to fellowship with everyone, not all have faith 2 Cor 6:14
   e. The church should care about the weaker brother - 1 Cor 8:12, 10:23-24, 12:25
   f. Stand and be counted! Be fully persuaded! Be ye separate!

3. 16:19-20
   a. “obedience” – Rom 1:5, Rom 6:17; “is come abroad” – Rom 1:8, 1 Thess 1:8
   b. Paul wanted them to be mature men, but not experienced in evil - 1 Cor 14:20
   c. To discern evil requires we exercise our senses – Heb 5:13-14, Eph 4:14
   d. “simple concerning evil” – to be separate and warned - Col 1:28, 1Ti 4:1-6, Eph 5:7
      i. We are not ignorant of Satan’s devices – 2 Cor 2:11
      ii. Doubt God, self-improvement, using God’s words against him – all lies.
      i. Who is Satan? Satan has ministers – 2 Cor 11:14-15
      ii. Satan is god of this world = 1 Cor 5:5, 2 Cor 4:4, Gal 1:4, Eph 5:16
      iii. Satan’s messages coming from our flesh – 2 Cor 12:7
      iv. Satan coming from those that cause divisions – 1 Thess 2:8
   f. “God of peace” – it comes from avoiding evil holding fast to the good, doing God’s will of your sanctification (separated unto God) – 1 Thess 5:21-23